

BE LIKE WATER.

The motto of the 2019 Hong Kong protests emphasizes anonymity, spontaneity, flexibility, and evasiveness. Keep moving!

BEMARE THE BAT

Found a convenient pile of bricks? An open door? Met a strange dude encouraging harm? The opposition will look for any excuse to get physical.

STOP DO NOT ENGAGE STOP

Stay nonviolent while the circumstances allow. Spin the visual narrative in your favor.

TEAR GAS

How to treat someone who's been gassed/maced/pepper sprayed...

1. Leave the active site. Remove contaminated layers of clothing if possible.
2. Flush eyes with clean water (NOT milk!) Sudecon wipes work, too.
3. Wash skin and hair with cool water and soap.

*Expect to be out of commission for 20 minutes

! These chemicals have been known to affect reproductive systems and cause uterine bleeding.

Gas canisters have been extinguished by covering them with traffic cones or metal bowls and quickly pouring water in to snuff it out.

PROTECT YOUR IDENTITY

Cover up any identifying features (tattoos, birthmarks, dyed hair)

Don't take photos of other protestors or post them online

If you can't leave your phone on airplane mode and turn off Bluetooth, WiFi, and all app location services

Deactivate biometric ID, fingerprint recognition)

In case of arrest or phone separation, write down emergency contact and legal counsel numbers on arm

RUBBER BULLETS

Munitions are touted as "less lethal" than metal bullets but can be just as deadly.

Intended to be aimed at the ground from 50-75m away...but more often targeted at close range.

LASER SOUND CANNONS + FLASH BANGS

can cause permanent hearing loss and are loud enough to induce vomiting.

Reverse riot shields can cut down on targeted sound and reflect some back.

WHAT TO BRING

CASH/CHANGE

WATER

*Stay hydrated! Flush out chemicals, works best

*Leave no trace, avoid using card for nearby purchases

SPARE MASKS

SNACKS

FIRST AID KIT

CHANGE OF CLOTHES

*In case of irritant exposure, or to alter appearance

D.I.Y. Defense

Luggage, trash can lids, and umbrellas work as makeshift shields.

SHUT THE FK UP**

Peaceful public protest is entirely within your rights under the First Amendment (though it does not protect "unlawful activity," i.e. property damage and assault)

As long as it's a designated public space, you have the right to film and document happenings.

And remember...

- If you're put in a holding cell...
- Or a transport vehicle...
- If a cop comes to your door...
- If you're pulled over after a protest...
- If you're texting on an unsecure device/app...
- If someone asks about a fellow protestor...
- If a cop asks about your day...

WHAT TO WEAR

HELMET

*Protect against falling debris, projectiles

GOOGLES

*Do not wear contacts.

EAR PLUGS

*Decrease the sound of acoustic weapons

GLOVES

*Heat-resistant to deal with tear gas canisters

BACKPACK

*Reduces skin exposure to irritants

LAYERS/LONG SLEEVES/PANTS

*Try for solid colors with no logos/decals/tears

MASK

*Counter facial recognition, reduce chemical inhalation (and illness)

*Full-face respirator ideal

NOTE:

If cautious wearing some items out of fear of provocation, consider bringing them in a backpack

PROTEST SAFELY

A BRIEF COLLECTION OF TIPS FROM AROUND THE INTERNET